



Sermon on the Mount
Sermon 3
Matthew 5:17-30

Sermon Study Guide
January 26, 2020

Opening:

Two weeks ago, we began a series in Matthew 5 from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. As we looked at the Be-Attitudes, we noticed that the attitudes Jesus spoke about do not come naturally, yet they are attitudes that will result in us being blessed/happy in this life.

Jesus was raising the bar as to how those who follow Him are to live their lives – with the guarantee that living that way will make us blessed/happy.

Last week, we talked about followers of Jesus being “Salt” and “Light.” Jesus said, “We Are” Salt, and we are Light. When we see ourselves as such, it changes the way we think and live (with purpose and with confidence).

Now, Jesus references the OT Law and the Prophetic writings. These were diluted over the years with traditions, and this contributed to the Scribes and Pharisees (religious leaders of Jesus' day) setting the bar in a far different place than God intended.

Read Matthew 5:17-20

- Why would Jesus have to explain His position on the Law and Prophets?

- How does He “fulfill” the Prophets and accomplish everything in the Law?
- What is Jesus point about the “least” and the “great”? How do we obtain this surpassing righteousness?
- What is the greatest commandment that Jesus wants us to know and how specifically can we act on it? (Matthew 22:34-40)
- If you match the seemingly high level that the religious leaders (Scribes and Pharisees) commended, why did Jesus say, “you will never enter into the kingdom”?

Matthew 5:21-26 (ESV)

- How did your parents settle disputes between you and your siblings?
- What's the best advice you have been given for dealing with anger?
- How is the law of Moses different from Jesus' teachings in this beatitude?
- What is the new higher standard of right and wrong? How does he link anger to murder? (Matthew 5:12-26)

Killing is a terrible sin, but anger is a great sin, too, because it also violates God's command to love. Anger in this case refers to a seething, brooding bitterness against someone. It is a dangerous emotion that always threatens to leap out of control, leading to violence, emotional hurt, increased mental stress, and spiritual damage.

- How does anger keeps us from developing a spirit pleasing to God?
- Have you ever been proud that you didn't strike out and say what was really on your mind to someone? What did you use to keep your anger in control?
- Jesus wants us to practice our thought-control as well. Jesus said that we will be held accountable even for our attitudes. Look at Galatians 5:16. What do we need to do with our sin nature in our lives? Galatians 5:22-26 reveals what we need to put on- what are the fruits of the Spirit and how do we use them?

- Jesus brings us a higher standard to live by when we are angry with a brother or sister in Christ. What is it? Also, what do we do if we have a conflict with an adversary?
- How can we avoid conflicts that bring shame to Jesus? (vs.25-26)

Matthew 5:27-30

- What was the standard that the people lived by, from the Law of Moses, on adultery?
- What was the higher standard that Jesus taught on adultery? (vs. 28)
- Jesus came to set the bar higher- how are lustful thoughts of the mind and heart considered adultery? To

make the point of sin, what did Jesus suggest and why?
(vs. 29-30)

Closing: Matthew 7:24-27

Let's jump ahead to the end of Jesus' sermon so we are reminded why it is so important for us to pursue the things Jesus is teaching.

- What is the parable that Jesus is using to teach a spiritual lesson?
- Why does Jesus use a parable to teach about hearing the truth and responding to the truth?
- For those who build on the sand – what are the physical and spiritual consequences when the storms of life come?

In your time alone with God, ask this question – in actual time and energy spent, are you building your life on the sand

or on the rock of Jesus? What's a first step or further step towards change?

Notes:

CrossRoads of Arlington
Sermon Study Guide

The Year of the Bible

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